

Single Member Cabinet Decision**Executive
Forward Plan
Reference****E3197****B&NES' response to Mendip Local Plan Part 2 Proposed
Main Modifications**

Decision maker/s	Cllr T Ball, Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and Economic Development
The Issue	Mendip District Council has published their Proposed Main Modifications to the submitted draft Local Plan Part 2 (Sites and Policies) for consultation with a deadline for comments of 2 nd March 2020. The Modifications propose to allocate three sites adjacent to Midsomer Norton in the north / north east of the Mendip District. B&NES Council object to these allocations and the reasons for the objections are set out in the 'B&NES Response to the Mendip Local Plan Part 2 Proposed Main Modifications.'
Decision Date	On or after 22nd February 2020 (for single Member decision)
The decision	<p>The Cabinet member for Housing, Planning and Economic Development;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agrees the B&NES Response to the Mendip Local Plan Part 2 (LPP2) Proposed Main Modifications.• Delegates authority to officers to submit the B&NES Response to Mendip District Council for the Mendip Local Plan Inspector's consideration.
Rationale for decision	<p>B&NES Council supported the submitted Mendip LPP2 which allocated sufficient housing sites to meet more than the Local Plan Part 1 strategic housing requirement and did not allocate any sites adjacent to Midsomer Norton. B&NES Council objects to the Main Modifications to allocate sites adjoining Midsomer Norton because it is unclear that this housing is required to meet Mendip's needs; there are more sustainable locations within Mendip to meet their communities' needs; and because there has been insufficient assessment of the impacts of allocation of sites adjoining Midsomer Norton, including in relation to the town's infrastructure.</p> <p>In addition, introducing such a significant change allocating an additional 450 dwellings adjacent to the B&NES boundary on the edge of Midsomer Norton at this late stage in the plan-making process fails to allow sufficient time to assess the impact on the local communities and the services & facilities and infrastructure of the town.</p>
Financial and budget implications	Preparation of the response to the Mendip LPP2 and potential appearance at the Examination hearings will be resourced by officers within the Planning Policy team. At this stage there are no additional resources required relating directly to this decision

Issues considered	Social Inclusion; Customer Focus; Sustainability; Equality (age, race, disability, religion/belief, gender, sexual orientation); Corporate;; Impact on Staff; Other Legal Considerations
Consultation undertaken	Ward Councillor; Cabinet colleagues; Parish Council; Town Council; Staff; Other B&NES Services; Section 151 Finance Officer; Monitoring Officer
How consultation was carried out	Meetings and circulation of drafts with officers and other services. Meeting with Cabinet member to explain proposals. Also contacted relevant ward members and Midsomer Norton Town Council and Westfield Parish Council. Draft circulated to the section 151 officer and the monitoring officer by email for comments and approval.
Other options considered	None.
Declaration of interest by Cabinet Member(s) for decision:	None.
Any conflict of interest declared by anyone who is consulted by a Member taking the decision:	None

Name and Signature of Decision Maker/s	
Date of Signature	
Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision	